Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, James "Jim" D. Seward is a son of the Black Hills of South Dakota, and a proud graduate of the University of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Jim served our nation in the United States Army, patrolling the German border as an M1 tank driver and gunner near the end of the Cold War, and has continued his service in the South Dakota National Guard as a JAG officer, serving in Afghanistan and earning the Bronze Star; and,

Whereas, Jim's public service has extended beyond the military, as he has served on the Vermillion City Council, as Butte County State's Attorney, and in leadership positions within the Republican Party; and,

Whereas, In 2010, Jim agreed to join the incoming administration of Governor Dennis Daugaard as general counsel, and has also served as a member of the Governor's Executive Committee; and,

Whereas, Jim skillfully served the state as a policy advisor for Corrections, distinguished himself through his tireless advocacy for criminal justice reinvestment and reform, culminating in the passage in 2013 of the Public Safety Improvement Act, and in 2015 of the Juvenile Justice Public Safety Improvement Act; and has become a nationally-recognized authority in this area; and,

Whereas, As General Counsel, Jim has led the effort to repeal unnecessary statutes and rules, has saved the state millions of dollars through his skillful management and negotiation of litigation, and has been a trusted advisor to many within state government dealing with difficult times and challenging problems; and,

Whereas, Governor Daugaard has come to rely on Jim, not only as a confidant and advisor, but as a friend, and Jim has been a friend and mentor to many others within state government; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper on such an occasion as this for the Governor to recognize the outstanding achievements of a great South Dakotan:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 26, 2016, as

JIM SEWARD DAY

in South Dakota, and join all South Dakotans in thanking Jim for his service to our state.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-Sixth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugarrd, Governor

Attest:

Teresa J Bray, Deputy Secretary

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State